



REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 12TH, 2020
6:00 pm

The Town of Big Lake Board of Supervisors met in regular session, at 6:00 PM, on Wednesday August 12th, 2020 at the Big Lake Township Town Hall, located at 21960 County Road 5 NW, Big Lake Township, Sherburne County, State of Minnesota. The meeting was called to order by Chair Bruce Aubol and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. In attendance were Chairman Bruce Aubol, Supervisors Larry Alford, Norm Leslie, Dean Brenteson, Treasurer Kenneth Warneke, Deputy Clerk Jayme Swenson, Town Engineer Wes Davis, a newspaper reporter and two (2) guests were in the audience. Clerk Brenda Kimberly-Maas was absent.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Deputy Clerk Jayme Swenson requested to MOVE; Item 8. -Roads to after the Open Forum and ADDING; under Business from the Clerk, Item f., to discuss information regarding the historic Kern bridge. Motion/Second to accept the presented Agenda with the revisions of moving Item 8. – Roads to after the Open Forum and ADDING; under Business from the Clerk, Item f., to discuss information regarding the historic Kern bridge by: Leslie/Brenteson. Approved by all present Supervisors. None opposed. Motion Prevailed. The meeting proceeded in accordance with the revised Agenda.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda consists of; a) Approval Minutes – Regular meeting of 07/22/2020 b) Approval of the List of Claims & Payroll 08/12/2020 Motion/Second to Approve Consent Agenda by: Alford/Brenteson. Approved by all present Supervisors. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Open Forum

Resident Bret Collier addressed the Board, with his concern of reports of multiple high-density housing projects, being proposed in the City of Big Lake. Mr. Collier requested that when the Board is approached with an annexation request, they take into consideration, if it will be used for high-density housing.

Roads

2020 Seal Coat Project Update

Town Engineer Wes Davis updated the Board on the progress of the 2020 seal coat project. He also shared that the project includes the process, called fog sealing, to help optimize the longevity and final results of the project.

Two Rivers' Escrow Reduction

Town Engineer Wes Davis provided calculations for an escrow reduction to Robin Lind, for the Two Rivers development. After recent inspection, he recommends the Town returns escrow, in the amount of \$55,581.10. Motion/Second to Approve an escrow reduction for Two Rivers development, with a check payable to Robin Lind, in the amount of \$50,081.10 and retaining an amount of \$14,197.00 (\$8,697.00, for one (1) year or until reinspection of a portion of road, that had new road material applied over an existing road and \$5,500 for eleven culverts) by: Brenteson/Leslie. Approved by all present Supervisors. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Business from the Clerk

TABLED Rusert License Agreement – SSTS Mound on 182nd Av (Ridgewood Heights)

Deputy Clerk Jayme Swenson presented to the Board an Item that was TABLED, at the July 22, 2020 meeting; The License Agreement between Robert and Lori Rusert, the Property Owners of parcel 10-429-0310 ~ 17375 182nd Avenue NW, and legally described as Lot 2, Block 3 in Ridgewood Heights Plat. The Agreement would allow the mound septic system's drain field to encroach into a Township Right of Way (ROW). Motion/Second to approve a License Agreement between Robert and Lori Rusert, the Property Owners of parcel 10-429-0310 ~ 17375 182nd Avenue NW, and legally described as Lot 2, Block 3 in Ridgewood Heights Plat, allowing the mound septic system's drain field to encroach into a Township Right of Way (ROW) by: Alfords/Brenteson. Approved by all present Supervisors. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Johnson Variance Agreement – SSTS Drain field 5' variance 196th Drive. (River Forest)

Deputy Clerk Jayme Swenson presented to the Board, a request to review and make comment on an application for a 5 foot variance in setback, from the Northern side property line, for a septic system upgrade at 17285 211th Ave NW. Cardell Johnson, Trustee of the property, was in attendance to answer the Board's questions. The Board was comfortable with the variance request. Motion/Second to recommend approval to allow a 5 foot variance, in the set back of the Northern side property line, for a septic system upgrade by: Alfords/Brenteson. All Supervisors present approved. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Change Regular Board Meeting on November 11, 2020 to November 18, 2020, due to Veteran's Day.

Deputy Clerk Jayme Swenson requested the Board change November's Regular Board Meeting from November 11, 2020 to November 18, 2020, due to Veteran's Day. Also making note; that it is customary for the months of November and December have only one (1) schedule Regular Board Meeting. Motion/Second to change November's Regular Board Meeting from November 11, 2020 to November 18, 2020, due to Veteran's Day by: Alfords/Brenteson. All Supervisors present approved. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Discuss Options for filling vacancy of Town Board Supervisor Seat 4

Deputy Clerk Jayme Swenson presented to the Board information pertaining to the Minnesota State Statutes and the appointment of a Supervisor's Seat, on the Town Board.

Election Recap

Deputy Clerk Jayme Swenson reported to the Board the results and a recap of the Primary Election on August 11, 2020. Of the 5,257 Registered Township Voters at 7:00am on August 11th, 489 Township residents voted, in person yesterday, at the Town's four (4) precincts. P1-164 Voters, P2-123 Voters, P3 -110 Voters and P4 - 92 Voters. There are no results available on the absentee voting results, for this Election.

Historic Kern Bridge

Deputy Clerk Jayme Swenson informed the Board that there is an opportunity for a pedestrian bridge, over the Elk River, to be installed alongside County Road 5 NW, at the Southern portion of the Big Lake Township's Lions Park. Gina Hugo, from Sherburne County, contacted the Town to discuss her submission of an application to the State of Minnesota. She is requesting that the historic bowstring truss Kern Bridge be relocated, in the Township, on County Road 5 NW, to allow a safe passage for pedestrian traffic as they cross the Elk River. The bridge, constructed in 1873, was located in Blue Earth County connecting Mankato and South Bend Townships, spanning the Le Sueur River until February 6, 2020. The bridge has been disassembled, received maintenance and put into storage. Ms. Hugo requested that if the Town Board has interest in the bridge's relocation, they provide a letter of support, for the project. Motion/Second to compose a letter, of support for

the relocation of the historic bowstring truss Kern Bridge, to be installed alongside County Road 5 NW, to allow a safe passage for pedestrian traffic as they cross the Elk River by: Leslie/Brenteson. All Supervisors present approved. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Business from the Board – Committee Reports/Updates

Supervisor Leslie shared that at the Big Lake Township’s Lions park, there has been various types of vandalism, recently. The Sherburne County Sheriff’s Department has been requested to increase their presence at the park.

Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Warneke reviewed the Financial Statements and reported the cash balance of the Government Funds (excluding escrow funds) as at \$1,603,887.46, Total Disbursements at \$1,487,079.23 and Receipts at \$1,858,130.36, Escrow Funds at \$541,998.61 with Total fund balance of \$2,145,886.07. He reported that the Town received its Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds of \$595,631.87. He requested an ad-hoc Committee be formed, for the handling of the funds. After discussion, the Board formed the ad-hoc Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds Committee, consisting of Treasurer Warneke, Chairman Aubol and Supervisor Leslie. Treasurer Warneke also informed the Board that the 2019 audit has been completed and will be presented, at a future Board meeting. He has no concerns, with the Town’s financials. Motion/Second to accept the Treasurer’s Report by: Alford/Brenteson. Approved by all present Supervisors. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Adjournment:

Motion/Second to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:54pm by: Leslie/Brenteson. Approved by all present Supervisors. None opposed. Motion Prevailed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Kimberly-Maas, Clerk and Jayme Swenson, Deputy Clerk

Accepted this 26th day of August, by the Town of Big Lake Board of Supervisors.

Bruce Aubol, Chair

Attest: _____
Brenda Kimberly-Maas, Town Clerk